

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the preceding amendments and following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 9-11, and 13-16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-7, 9-11, and 13-15 are amended, and claims 8 and 12 are cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein; and claim 16 is added. No new matter is added. Claims 1, 13, and 14 are the independent claims.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgement that certified copies of all priority documents have been received by the U.S.P.T.O.

Applicants also appreciate the Examiner's indication that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 22, 2005, has been considered.

Applicants also respectfully note that the present action does not indicate that the drawings have been accepted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's next communication include an indication as to the acceptability of the filed drawings or as to any perceived deficiencies so that the Applicants may have a full and fair opportunity to submit appropriate amendments and/or corrections to the drawings.

Election/Restriction Requirement

Applicants note the withdrawal of the election of species requirement of Species 1-A through I-G by the Examiner, and acknowledge that Group I and Species 1-A, now reads on claims 1-11 and 13-15. Claim 12 has been withdrawn by the Examiner as being directed to a non-elected invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit

that claim 12 has been canceled by this Amendment, and respectfully reserve the right to file a divisional application(s) directed to the non-elected invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 1-11 and 13, would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office Action.

Applicants submit that claims 1-11 and 13 have now been amended to obviate the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, and thus, claims 1-11 and 13 are now in condition for allowance.

Objections to the Specification

The Abstract of the disclosure is objected as failing to be provided on a separate sheet. Accordingly, Applicants have provided an Abstract on a separate sheet at the end of this document. Withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-11 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

Applicants have amended claims 1-11 and 13-15, taking into consideration the Examiner's comments, to obviate the rejections. Withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1-11 and 13-15 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,603,314 ("Fukunaga"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Fukunaga reference fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of claim 1, and therefore, an anticipatory rejection has not been established.¹

For example, claim 14, as amended, recites a toroidal transformer, including, *inter alia*:

a hollow bobbin including at least one tube of flexible material having a substantially rectangular shaped interior hollow cross-section, wherein said hollow bobbin extends from a first end to a second end and is bent in such a way that said first end and said second end are brought towards each other.

Applicants respectfully submit, however, that the Fukunaga reference discloses a housing (B) with an inner wall (B-1), an outer wall (B-2) and a bottom wall (B-3). An elongated empty space or a track (B-4) provided among the walls, and an amorphous coil (A) mounted in space (B-4) (see e.g., col. 2, lines 51-55, and FIG. 3B-3C). Consequently, to be able to arrange the amorphous coil (A) in the housing (B), the arrangement in Fukunaga requires a housing (B) with an open cross-section, and thus, not compatible with a bobbin formed by a tube, as taught in claim 14.

In addition, according to the Fukunaga reference, the housing (B) functions as a jig for defining the shape of the amorphous coil (A), and the deformation of the

¹ A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. See MPEP § 2131; *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

amorphous coil (A) by the elasticity of the coil itself is completely prevented (*see col. 2, lines 55-59*). Consequently, the Fukunaga reference cannot be compatible with a bobbin in a flexible material. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the Fukunaga reference fails to disclose or suggest “a hollow bobbin including at least one tube of flexible material,” as recited in claim 14.

Therefore, contrary to the Examiner’s contention, the Fukunaga reference does not disclose or suggest each and every element of claim 14.

Since the Fukunaga reference fails to disclose each and every element of claim 14, it cannot provide a basis for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and, thus, is allowable. Claim 15 depends from amended claim 14 and, therefore, allowable for the similar reasons discussed above with respect to claim 14.

For at least these reasons, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the § 102(b) rejection of claims 14 and 15.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending objections and rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Further, the above remarks demonstrate the failings of the outstanding rejections, and are sufficient to overcome the rejections. However, these remarks are not intended to, nor need they, comprehensively address each and every reason for the patentability of the claimed subject matter over the applied prior art. Accordingly, Applicants do not contend that the claims are patentable solely on the basis of the particular claim elements discussed above.

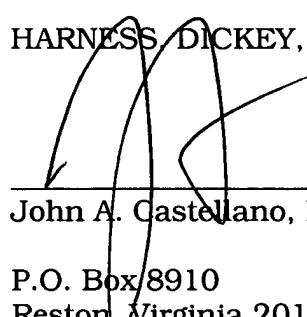
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned, at the telephone number below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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